

SCANNED

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE
DIVISION

Glen Hugh Todd)
Middle Tennessee Space)
center for Toxic under ground)

Name of Plaintiff(s) Nuclear)
Reactors)

v. Rutherford County)
Middle Tennessee Space)

center for Toxic under)
ground ~~the~~ Nuclear Reactor)
Name of Defendant(s))

Case No. _____
(To be assigned by Clerk)

Bust
Opec.

RECEIVED
IN CLERK'S OFFICE
OCT 03 2017
U. S. DISTRICT COURT
MID. DIST. TENN.

COMPLAINT

1. State the grounds for filing this case in Federal Court (include federal statutes and/or U. S. Constitutional provisions, if you know them):

Realstate Fraud and Premeditated Murder

2. Plaintiff, Rutherford County and Middle Tennessee resides at

3858 Hickory grove Rd., _____
Street address City

Rutherford, Tennessee, 37129, 615-967-0282
County State Zip Code Telephone Number

(If more than one plaintiff, provide the same information for each plaintiff below.)

Ted Turner and his family, Opec
Far East Restaurant, Jones Bros. Construction
Jody Barney and her armies, Communist

3. Defendant, _____ resides at

_____,
Street address City

_____, _____, _____, _____
County State Zip Code Telephone Number

(If more than one defendant, provide the same information for each defendant below.)

4. Statement of claim. (State as briefly as possible, the facts of your case. Describe how each Defendant is involved. Include also the names of other persons involved, dates, and places. Be as specific as possible. You may use additional paper if necessary. Attach any documentation or exhibits in support of the complaint):

5. Prayers for Relief (List what you want to Court to do):

- a. _____

_____.
- b. _____

_____.
- c. _____

_____.
- d. _____

_____.

I (We) hereby certify under penalty of perjury that the above Petition is true to the best of my (our) information, knowledge, and belief.

Signed this _____ day of _____, 20____.

Ellen Hugh Todd
(Signature of Plaintiff(s))

required to immerse themselves in matters to which they are unaccustomed by training or experience. Second, the factual issues with which the Secretary must deal are frequently not subject to any definitive resolution. Often "the factual finger points, it does not conclude." *Society of Plastics Industry, Inc. v. OSHA*, 509 F.2d 1301, 1308 (CA2) (Clark, J.), cert. denied, 421 U.S. 992, 95 S.Ct. 1998, 44 L.Ed.2d 482 (1975). Causal connections and theoretical extrapolations may be uncertain. Third, when the question involves determination of the acceptable level of risk, the ultimate decision must necessarily be based on considerations of policy as well as empirically verifiable facts. Factual determinations can at most define the risk in some statistical way; the judgment whether that risk is tolerable cannot be based solely on a resolution of the facts.

The decision to take action in conditions of uncertainty bears little resemblance to the sort of empirically verifiable factual conclusions to which the substantial evidence test is normally applied. Such decisions were not intended to be unreviewable; they too must be scrutinized to ensure that the Secretary has acted reasonably and within the boundaries set by Congress. But a reviewing court must be mindful of the limited nature of its role. See *Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp. v. NRDC*, 435 U.S. 519, 98 S.Ct. 1197, 55 L.Ed.2d 460 (1978). It must recognize that the ultimate decision cannot be based solely on determinations of fact, and that those factual conclusions that have been reached are ones which the courts are ill-equipped to resolve on their own.

Under this standard of review, the decision to reduce the permissible exposure level to 1 ppm was well within the Secretary's authority. The Court of Appeals upheld the Secretary's conclusions that benzene causes leukemia, blood disorders, and chromosomal damage even at low levels, that an exposure level of 10 ppm is more dangerous

lives that would be saved was not subject to quantification. Nor did it question his conclusion that the reduction was "feasible."

In these circumstances, the Secretary's decision was reasonable and in full conformance with the statutory language requiring that he "set the standard which most adequately assures, to the extent feasible, on the basis of the best available evidence, that no employee will suffer material impairment of health or functional capacity even if such employee has regular exposure to the hazard dealt with by such standard for the period of his working life." 29 U.S.C. § 655(b)(5). On this record, the Secretary could conclude that regular exposure above the 1 ppm level would pose a definite risk resulting in material impairment to some indeterminate but possibly substantial number of employees. Studies revealed hundreds of deaths attributable to benzene exposure. Expert after expert testified that no safe level of exposure had been shown and that the extent of the risk declined with the exposure level. There was some direct evidence of incidence of leukemia, nonmalignant blood disorders, and chromosomal damage at exposure levels of 10 ppm and below. Moreover, numerous experts testified that existing evidence required an inference that an exposure level above 1 ppm was hazardous. We have stated that "well-reasoned expert testimony—based on what is known and contradicted by empirical evidence—may in and of itself be 'substantial evidence' when firsthand evidence on the question is unavailable." *FPC v. Florida Power & Light Co.*

26. This is not to say that the Secretary is prohibited from examining relative costs and benefits in the process of setting priorities among hazardous substances, or that systematic consideration of costs and benefits is not to be attempted in the standard-setting process. Efforts to quantify costs and benefits, like statements of reasons generally, may help to promote informed consideration of decisional factors and facilitate judicial review. See *Dunlop v. Bachowski*, 421 U.S. 560, 571-574, 95 S.Ct.

from acting when definitive information as to the quantity of a standard's benefits is unavailable.²⁶ Where, as here, the deficiency in knowledge relates to the extent of the benefits rather than their existence, I see no reason to hold that the Secretary has exceeded his statutory authority.

B

The plurality avoids this conclusion through reasoning that may charitably be described as obscure. According to the plurality, the definition of occupational safety and health standards as those "reasonably necessary or appropriate to provide safe or healthful . . . working conditions" requires the Secretary to show that it is "more likely than not" that the risk he seeks to regulate is a "significant" one. *Ante*, at 2869. The plurality does not show how this requirement can be plausibly derived from the "reasonably necessary or appropriate" clause. Indeed, the plurality's reasoning is refuted by the Act's language, structure, and legislative history, and it is foreclosed by every applicable guide to statutory construction. In short, the plurality's standard is a fabrication bearing no connection with the acts or intentions of Congress.

At the outset, it is important to observe that "reasonably necessary or appropriate" clauses are routinely inserted in regulatory legislation, and in the past such clauses have uniformly been interpreted as general provisos that regulatory actions must bear a reasonable relation to those statutory purposes set forth in the statute's substantive provisions. See, e.g., *FCC v. National Citizens*

1851, 1859-61, 44 L.Ed.2d 377 (1975). The Secretary indicates that he has attempted to quantify costs and benefits in the past. See 43 Fed.Reg. 54354, 54427-54431 (1978) (lead); *id.*, at 27350, 27378-27379 (cotton dust).

It is not necessary in the present litigation to say whether the Secretary must show a reasonable relation between costs and benefits. Discounting for the scientific uncertainty, the Secretary expressly—and reasonably—found such a relation here.

the issues of technical complexity, the courts are lives in matters need by training factual issues must deal are definitive res- finger points, it of *Plastics In-* 2d 1301, 1308 1, 421 U.S. 992, (1975). Causal extrapolations when the ques- of the accepta- e decision must nsiderations of verifiable facts, at most define way; the judg- tolerable cannot on of the facts. n in conditions resemblance to ifiable factual substantial evi- d. Such deci- e unreviewable; to ensure that reasonably and Congress. But mindful of the See *Vermont v. NRDC*, 435 5 L.Ed.2d 460 at the ultimate ely on determi- use factual con- nched are ones pped to resolve

view, the deci- e exposure lev- the Secretary's Appeals upheld that benzene ders, and chro- y levels, that an more dangerous

than one of 1 ppm, and that benefits will result from the proposed standard. It did not set aside his finding that the number of lives that would be saved was not subject to quantification. ¹⁷⁰⁷ Nor did it question his conclusion that the reduction was "feasible."

In these circumstances, the Secretary's decision was reasonable and in full conformance with the statutory language requiring that he "set the standard which most adequately assures, to the extent feasible, on the basis of the best available evidence, that no employee will suffer material impairment of health or functional capacity even if such employee has regular exposure to the hazard dealt with by such standard for the period of his working life." 29 U.S.C. § 655(b)(5). On this record, the Secretary could conclude that regular exposure above the 1 ppm level would pose a definite risk resulting in material impairment to some indeterminate but possibly substantial number of employees. Studies revealed hundreds of deaths attributable to benzene exposure. Expert after expert testified that no safe level of exposure had been shown and that the extent of the risk declined with the exposure level. There was some direct evidence of incidence of leukemia, nonmalignant blood disorders, and chromosomal damage at exposure levels of 10 ppm and below. Moreover, numerous experts testified that existing evidence required an inference that an exposure level above 1 ppm was hazardous. We have stated that "well-reasoned expert testimony—based on what is known and uncontradicted by empirical evidence—may in and of itself be 'substantial evidence' when firsthand evidence on the question . . . is unavailable." *FPC v. Florida Power &*

26. This is not to say that the Secretary is prohibited from examining relative costs and benefits in the process of setting priorities among hazardous substances, or that systematic consideration of costs and benefits is not to be attempted in the standard-setting process. Efforts to quantify costs and benefits, like statements of reasons generally, may help to promote informed consideration of decisional factors and facilitate judicial review. See *Dunlop v. Bachowski*, 421 U.S. 560, 571–574, 95 S.Ct.

Light Co., 404 U.S. 453, 464–465, 92 S.Ct. 637, 644, 30 L.Ed.2d 600 (1972). Nothing in the Act purports to prevent the Secretary from acting when definitive information as to the quantity of a standard's benefits is unavailable.²⁶ Where, as here, the deficiency in knowledge relates to the extent of the benefits rather than their existence, I see no reason to hold that the Secretary has exceeded his statutory authority. ¹⁷⁰⁸

B

The plurality avoids this conclusion through reasoning that may charitably be described as obscure. According to the plurality, the definition of occupational safety and health standards as those "reasonably necessary or appropriate to provide safe or healthful . . . working conditions" requires the Secretary to show that it is "more likely than not" that the risk he seeks to regulate is a "significant" one. *Ante*, at 2869. The plurality does not show how this requirement can be plausibly derived from the "reasonably necessary or appropriate" clause. Indeed, the plurality's reasoning is refuted by the Act's language, structure, and legislative history, and it is foreclosed by every applicable guide to statutory construction. In short, the plurality's standard is a fabrication bearing no connection with the acts or intentions of Congress.

At the outset, it is important to observe that "reasonably necessary or appropriate" clauses are routinely inserted in regulatory legislation, and in the past such clauses have uniformly been interpreted as general provisos that regulatory actions must bear a reasonable relation to those statutory purposes set forth in the statute's substantive provisions. See, e.g., *FCC v. National Citi-*

1851, 1859–61, 44 L.Ed.2d 377 (1975). The Secretary indicates that he has attempted to quantify costs and benefits in the past. See 43 Fed.Reg. 54354, 54427–54431 (1978) (lead); *id.*, at 27350, 27378–27379 (cotton dust).

It is not necessary in the present litigation to say whether the Secretary must show a reasonable relation between costs and benefits. Discounting for the scientific uncertainty, the Secretary expressly—and reasonably—found such a relation here.